

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

999 18<sup>TH</sup> STREET - SUITE 300 DENVER, CO 80202-2466 Phone 800-227-8917 http://www.epa.gov/region08



November 19, 2003

Ref: 8EPR-SR

Mr. D.C. Orr 1117 Nevada Ave Libby, MT 59923

RE: Conflict of Interest Allegation from D.C. Orr, Libby Asbestos Site Operable Unit One

Dear Mr. Orr:

I am writing to inform you that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of the Inspector General's (OIG's) investigative efforts regarding the referenced conflict of interest allegation were closed June 23, 2003. Investigative efforts determined the allegation was unfounded and no additional investigative effort is warranted. The OIG informed me that the case is closed. They are not aware of any further investigations based upon your subsequent calls to the OIG. As always, the OIG is willing to consider new information, concerns, or allegations. If you have questions regarding the OIG's findings or additional information, I suggest you contact the OIG Hotline.

You recently sent a letter to Wendy Thomi regarding EPA's community involvement efforts in Libby. While we strongly disagree with your allegations and conclusions, you are welcome to discuss these issues further with either Wendy's or my supervisors. Wendy's supervisor is Bob Fox at (406) 457-5033. The Director of EPA's Montana Office, and Bob's supervisor, is John Wardell at (406) 457-5001. My supervisor is Bert Garcia at (303) 312-6670. Bert's supervisor is Dale Vodehnal at (303) 312-6761. You have already spoken to Mr. Vodehnal several times. You can also contact the EPA Region 8 Ombudsman, Sonya Pennock, at (303) 312-6600.

If you have additional questions, feel free to contact me directly at (303) 312-6748 or through the EPA Information Center in Libby at 293-6194.

Sincerely,

Jim Christiansen

Remedial Project Manager